Pak hand in the Punjab Crisis

*87. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as indicated by the BBC world service, the Government of India have solid evidence of Pakistan's hand in the Punjab crisis;

(b) if so, what is Government's information and the nature of evidence in this regard; and

(c) what is Government's reaction in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the basis of information available with the Government, it is clear that Pakistan's assistance to extremist activities directed against India has taken many forms, ranging from inspirational support to supply of weapons.

(c) This is a matter of serious concern to Government and has been taken up with the Government of Pakistan on several occassions at various levels.

Indo-Burma Talks on Border Insurgency

*88. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any talks were held recently between India and Burma regarding the steps to be taken to check cross-border insurgency; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. During the visit of the Burmese Foreign Minister in September, 1987, one of the subjects discussed was the question of cross border insurgency and cooperation in controlling it, including present arrangements for the exchange of information.

(b) if was decided to maintain the present arrangements.

Anticpatory provisional pension

*89. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the average time taken in the decision of pension cases of Government employees;

(b) whether during the pendency of the matter, every retiring employee is entitled to receive some anticipatory provisional pension;

(c) whether there are cases where this facility is denied to the claimants; and

(d) if so, what remedy is available to the aggrieved persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) A time-frame of 24-30 months has been prescribed for initiation and finalisation of pension claims of retiring officials to enable issue of Pension Payment Order by the date retirement of the Government employees.

(b) to (d) Provisional pension is required to be sanctioned to every retiring employee eligible for pension in accordance with the rules, if delays are anticipated in final assessment and sanction of pension by the date of retirement Some cases where provisional pension was not sanctioned